

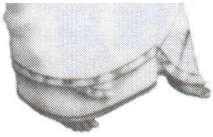


Sunda:: 2 +th F ebruar:: 1 895

In the morning we went down in the boats from Asi to Varuna⁵² between which are the other ghauts and temples. The sight was a splendid one, almost all the big native princes have their own temples, ghauts & chathrams.⁵³ We alighted from the boat at Raja Ghaut near the Dufferin Bridge.⁵⁴ In the evening we visited another Bungalow belonging to the Maharaja near the Cant [Cantonment] Station.

Monda:: 25th Februar:: 1895

This morning the remains of H.H's mother were deposited in the river with due ceremonials. H.H. next bathed at the Manikarnika Ghaut⁵⁵ and worshipped at the chief temples. The crowd on the Ghauts and the temples was something enormous. Large sums of money were thrown among the poor who were following H.H.



T uesda:: 26th F ebruar:: 1 895

H.H. bathed and performed Shradha at the Manikarnika again this morning and in the afternoon feasted three hundred Brahmins and gave them donations. In the evening Venu Madhava and Bhairava⁵⁶ were worshipped. At night there was singing and nautch at the palace. Saraswathi, the best singer in Benaras entertained the party till about 12, all enjoying the performance immensely.

Wednesda:: 27th Februar:: 1895

All bathed at Hanuman Ghaut and performed Shrardha and worshipped Bhavani and Karri Bai.⁵⁷ Started by the 1 p.m. train for Gaya. Mr Lazarus being present at the station to see us off. Reached Bankipur at 6 and H.H. was received by Chotalal who accompanied the party to Gaya. The journey from Bankipur to Gaya was very slow and tedious. Arrangements had been made for accommodation at Chotalal's house.

Thursda:: 28th F ebruar:: 1 895

In the morning bathed in the Bhalgu [Falgu River] and performed Shradhas i.n the River at Vishnupad and Akshyavad.⁵⁸ When H.H. returned and breakfasted it was 2.30. The priest, unlike what we had heard, behaved in a very gentlemanly manner to H.H. at Akshayavad and was moderate in his demands though H.H. was as he put it for the time being his prisoner. Chotalal is a C.LE., the title being given in consideration of his services during the mutiny. Drove round the town in the evening.

Frida:: 1 st March 1 895

Very early in the morning we drove to Buddha Gaya 6 miles off to see the old Buddhist temple more than 2000 years old and repaired by Government

